

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 99-3-22**

Date Prepared: March 18, 1999
For Work Week Commencing: March 22, 1999
Business Meeting: March 22, 1999, 10:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.state.mt.us>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Dennis Crawford at (406) 444-6182 or Dan Elliott at (406) 444-6187. They may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

Work Sessions All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated (Dan).

1. D98.6.127 – Havre Pipeline – Discuss application of Black Hills Exploration for late intervention (3/23/99)
2. D97.5.87 – 271 – To assess where we are after the order to dismiss (3/23/99)
3. D97.5.87 – USWC 271 filing – Discuss possible joint effort by ROC members to test USWC's OSS interface capabilities for 271 compliance (3/23/99)
4. D98.4.86 – USWC Dialing Parity Plan- Discuss correcting defective notice on USWC's proposal to raise rates to recover costs of dialing parity – (3/23/99)
5. D98.10.226 – Lincoln Telephone Company's Implementation of IntraLATA Dialing Parity – Discuss and act on Lincoln's Dialing Parity Plan (3/23/99)

6. D98.10.223, D98.10.227, and D99.1.6 – Clark Fork, Mid-Rivers and Blackfoot's IntraLATA Dialing Parity Plans – carrier notification issues – Discuss and act on CFT, BFT and Mid-River's carrier notices (3/23/99)
7. Discussion and action on closing several inactive T-com dockets (3/23/99)
8. D97.2.33 and D97.4.65 – Payphone Dockets – Commissions final approval of the Payphone Order (3/23/99)
9. D98.8.190 – Western Wireless – Discuss procedure necessary, scheduling (3/23/99)

Legislative Meeting – Will be held at 9:30 am on the day of the Business Meeting.

Weekly Scheduling Meeting – Will be held at 9:45 a.m. on the day of the Business Meeting

Action Items All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. US WEST – Docket N99.1.14 (Bonnie)

On January 26, 1999, US WEST filed Tariff Transmittal 98-45, Revisions, proposing the addition of a competitive zone price for Centrex 21 inside the base rate area in Sidney, as well as a promotional period to waive installation and conversion charges for 90 days after approval when customers subscribe to Centrex 21. The price proposed is the same as the price approved by the Commission for Glendive.

The Commission previously deferred action on this filing until final action on US WEST's request for flexible pricing in Sidney and Fairview. That order has been issued with no motions for reconsideration being filed. Staff recommends approval of N99.1.14.

2. SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS – Docket N99.3.55 (Vicki)

On March 9, 1999, Sprint filed tariff pages to grandfather the Sprint Worldwide II service and add text to Sprint Unlimited.

Notice Items All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda.

1. US WEST COMMUNICATIONS – Docket N99.3.58 (Vicki)

On March 11, 1999, US West filed tariff pages to introduce a promotional offering for Digital Switched Services (DSS) trunks. The offering allows current PBX analog trunk customers to upgrade to Basic DSS with a waiver of the non-recurring DSS Basic trunk charges when entering into a 3 or 5 year rate stability agreement. During the promotion period, the non-recurring charge for Basic DSS facility and common equipment will be waived for customers who enter into a 5 year rate stability agreement. The waiver is available on services ordered during the promotional period of 90 days beginning on April 5, 1999. The installation must be completed by October 1, 1999, which gives the customer time to convert to digital CPE if necessary

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

Tentative Action Items for Agenda 99-3-28

Docket N99.3.58 USWC (Vicki)

New Filings Received in Past Week

D99.3.56 – MDU – Gas Tracker

D99.3.57 – Big Mountain Water – Tariff application for rate increase

N99.3.58 – USWC – Tariff 99-16 “Digital Switched Services Promo”

N99.3.59 – Sprint – Tariff filing to change the minimum billing increment
for business sense customers

N99.3.60 – USWC – Tariff 99-17 “Introduce Residential WinBack”

N99.3.61 – USWC – Tariff 99-18 “Business Competitive Response WinBack”

D99.3.62 – Mid Rivers Telephone Coop – Application for Regional EAS